

I would like to thank co- chairs, Representative Lemar, Senator Haskell, vice chairs - Senator Cassano and Representative Sims and ranking members, Representative Carney and Senator Somers for the opportunity to submit written testimony in support of SB-4 - an act concerning the Connecticut Clean Air Act.

My name is Kerri Ana Provost. I am a resident of Hartford, and I encourage you to cosponsor Connecticut SB-4, *AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONNECTICUT CLEAN AIR ACT- To reduce carbon emissions by expanding public and private utilization of electric vehicles in Connecticut to protect human health and the environment.* **I am writing in support of proposed change to the [Connecticut Hydrogen and Electric Automobile Rebate \(CHEAPR\)](#) program which currently excludes electric bicycles from eligibility for rebates. We are asking for several amendments to the SB-4 bill language-** the first is to increase the proposed cap on eligible bicycles from \$2,000 to *at least* \$3,000 to include more of the car-replacing electric cargo bikes and the inventory typically sold by local bike shops. The second is to add two seats to the advisory committee - one for a bicycle organization or bicycle shops representative and for the PURA chair. We would like to see the amount of the rebate increased for EJ communities and LMI individuals from \$500 to *at least* \$1,000. Finally, we would also like the definition of EJ communities to be tied to census tract.

If passed SB4 would create electric equity by including individuals like myself who do not want the financial burden of car ownership. Living in a densely populated urban area, it makes no financial sense, nor is it socially responsible, for me to own an automobile. I am centrally located, able to get most places on foot, by bike, or bus without much fuss; however, longer trips at odd times when the buses are not running makes certain things, like attending religious services or going on larger grocery trips, more challenging. This will only become more so as I age, so this is not only about equity but about maintaining quality of life.

Beyond any personal reason I could give, the most important reason to pass SB4 is to reduce GHG emissions. Climate change is already having a negative impact, and the quality of living for future generations will be dramatically worse if we do not act now.

I strongly support SB4 and urge you to cosponsor this important piece of legislation.

Sincerely,

Kerri Ana Provost

Hartford, CT